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Title: Need to expedite construction of refinery-cum-petrochemicals project at Paradeep, Orissa.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important matter. A foundation stone was laid by the hon. Prime Minister in May, 2000, at Paradeep for setting up of a Petro Refinery-cum-Petrochemicals Project. Land acquisition for 3347 acres and pre-development works have been completed. All concessions, including deferment of Sales Tax have been granted by the Government of Orissa. The IOC Limited has entered into an MoU with the Government of Orissa for setting up 9 MMPTA Refinery Plant by 2009-10 – now we are in 2009 - which has been subsequently upgraded to 15 MMPTA Refinery-cum-Petrochemicals project to be executed at an estimated cost of more than Rs.20,000/- crore. Paradeep has been identified as one of the five locations in the country with potential for establishment of P.C.P.I.R. project. Application for the purpose has been filled by the State Government with the Government of India, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. At present, only work relating to Haldia-Paradeep Pipe line project has been taken up and there is no progress on the refinery-cum-petrochemicals project.

Sir, already nine years have passed. During this UPA Government's regime, these two important projects for the country as also for the economic development of the State have been deferred. The Government is not taking any serious steps for the continuation of this petrochemical project.

So, I would urge upon the Government to take it up seriously and expedite the project so that Orissa is benefited as also the country.